

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

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4TH FLOOR, CITY HALL

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

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**JOINT CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

**Lynwood Roberts Room, 1st floor, City Hall**

**May 21, 2018**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Location:** Lynwood Roberts, City Hall – St. James Building, 117 West Duval Street

**In attendance:** The Honorable Rahman Johnson, Adonnica Toler, Mr. Chris Hand, Tim Allegretti, Dr. Marvin Grant, Lloyd Washington, Dr. Alan Bliss, Dr. Brenda Simmons-Hutchins, Monica Smith, Rhiley Hodges, Maria Hane, Ju’Coby Pittman

**Also**: Tim Rogers, Jacksonville Public Library; Joy Bradley Walker, ITD; Marcia Oliver, Public Affairs; Bill McConnell, SMG; Laura Minor, JPL; Dr. Cheryl Brown and Paula Shoup, City Council; Richard Distel and Yvonne P. Mitchell – Council Research Division

**Meeting Convened**: 10:05 a.m.

The Honorable Rahman Johnson called the meeting to order and the attendees introduced themselves for the record. He provided a summary regarding the Task Force and its charge. The purpose of the joint meeting was to discuss the logistics with the Jacksonville Public Library (JPL) and the Ritz Theatre as the curators of the Civil Rights History timeline and artifacts. Mr. Tim Rogers agreed to the JPL being the repository for the digital version of the timeline. It would be included in the Special Collection Section. He requested a copy of the draft to allow library staff to determine specifications to link the document to the website. The potential costs include the amount of data space needed and whether additional staff is required. The library receives terabytes from ITD as required. Mr. Rogers commented that most of the costs should be upfront expenses with very low ongoing maintenance expense.

Mr. Johnson shared the primary goal was to secure the ability of the timeline going live no later than June 25, 2018. Mr. Chris Hand noted the importance of alignment and collaboration with administration and Council leadership. There was extensive discussion regarding website content, application development, and internal management regarding the short and long-term goals. Ms. Joy Walker Bradley explained that a scope process is essential in determining an estimate for an application program. Dr. Cheryl Brown suggested modifying an existing application to reduce potential costs due to the limited deadline. In regards to the artifacts, she stated they should be linked to an index search which identifies where they are located. Dr. Brenda Simmons-Hutchins explained that the timeline is a compilation of people, places, and things that have a specific connection with civil rights. The intent is to provide the most authentic presentation of the Jacksonville’s history. Mr. Johnson reiterated that the timeline was still in draft form. In response to an inquiry, Mr. Rogers stated that staff would attach metadata to the document before attaching it to the website. Metadata will allow elements within the text to be easily searched.

For clarification, the priority is to integrate digital timeline onto JPL’s website by June 25th. There was a discussion about the importance of content and aesthetics. Dr. Brown suggested the committee consider sectioning the document in spans of time to allow other entities to add information or links. Ms. Laura Minor suggested the committee research Florida Humanities Council as a funding source. They funded a mobile application called Florida Stories.

Mr. Bill McConnell, SMG, shared his support of the Ritz Theatre as the repository for Civil Rights artifacts. He acknowledged the importance of alignment with the administration and following a strategic plan. He requested a list of the Task Force expectations of the Ritz to be ready by June 25th. It is critical to assess the needs as it relates to financial impact, infrastructure, storage, etc. Ms. Adonnica Toler noted that the utilization of a legal agreement was necessary with obtaining donations from the community. The committee will follow up with the Office of General Counsel. At this time, the Task Force does not have any artifacts available for display or storage.

Mr. Hand acknowledged that JPL and the Ritz were required to work within internal guidelines to allocate funds for activities. He requested both entities provide the committee a timeline of their needs and estimates to accommodate the Task Force. This information will assist the Finance Subcommittee in gathering potential supplement funding sources. Mr. Hand held a conversation with Council Member Lori Boyer regarding the Tourist Development Council, a potential funding source. She recommended that the Task Force consider a Civil Rights campus concept that connects historic sites, especially in the LaVilla area, for a better experience for residents and visitors. Mr. Hand supports the idea as it is a great marketing tool in securing funding from entities like the TDC, grants, etc.

Mr. Tony Allegretti shared that WJCT is interested in working with the Task Force. Ms. Monica Smith is still awaiting a response from Visit Florida regarding its participation with Travel South which is a requirement for any city in Florida to apply for inclusion in the U.S. Civil Rights Trail.

Confirmations

1. The Jacksonville Public Library will acquire oversight and maintenance of the digital version of the Civil Rights History Timeline
2. The Ritz Theatre will serve as the curator and repository for Civil Rights artifacts.

Public comment

Ms. Linda Chapman shared her interest in donating some artifacts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Meeting adjourned:** 11:32 a.m.

The written minutes of this meeting are an overview of the discussion. The audio version of the meeting may be retrieved from the Office of Legislative Services.

Minutes: Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research

05.24.18 Posted 9:30 p.m.

Tapes: Task Force on Civil Rights History Meeting – LSD

05.24.18